



FLOTILLA 04-76
February 2015

LIFELINE NEWSLETTER
Volume #2



Greetings shipmates! As we move forward, just a few announcements. Spring District Training Event D-TRAIN is scheduled of March 13, 14 & 15 in Reading, PA. Details can be found on the web link: <https://www.regonline.com/5nrspring2015>. Rear Admiral Mettruck, Commander of the 5th Coast Guard District will be a keynote speaker at the Saturday Annual Awards Banquet. We also want to acknowledge our members who received awards at COW last month. They were:

Most Operational Hours: Ken Christy
Most Instructor Hours: Pat Cunningham
Most Vessel Exams: Russ Rosenzweig

Congratulations and Thank You for your dedicated service to both the USCG and the Auxiliary!! You do make a difference...

Semper Paratus – Always Ready

Charles J Miller, II
FSO-PB-AFSO-PA
Editor

Charles A. Stiteler
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CONSIDER BECOMING A RADIO OPERATOR

The Coast Guard Auxiliary needs Telecommunications Operators (TCOs). Every patrol must check in with an assigned radio facility on a schedule while they are out. Here in Division 4, that facility is AUXSARDET Marcus Hook. We must have a radio operator on duty every Saturday and Sunday that patrols go out.

There are also a growing number of paddle craft patrols on Pennsylvania lakes. The number of fatalities involving personal water craft and paddle craft is growing every year. The Coast Guard has called on the Auxiliary to provide paddle craft patrols at marinas where kayaks, canoes, and personal water craft are rented. Each of these patrols must have a radio guard.

This coverage can only be provided by Auxiliary radio operators manning mobile radio facilities parked at the marina while the patrols are in progress.

Members who are interested in becoming radio operators must first pass AUXCOM. This course is prerequisite to taking TCO. And, even if you don't aspire to be a radio operator, AUXCOM is one of the courses required to become AUXOP.

Submitted by:
Jim Weiler
FSO-CM 4-76

FLOTILLA NEWS UPDATES

Atlantic City Boat Show

February 4-8, 2015 | Atlantic City Convention Center



Representing 04-76 at this year's Atlantic City Boat Show, our own VFC John Austin, help educate new & experienced boaters on Safety on our waterways. VFC Austin greeted boating enthusiasts from the Delaware Valley and beyond and helped make this season's hobby, a safe one. **Thanks VFC Austin for all you do to make boating safe and enjoyable.**



Correction: Previously, we incorrectly noted Jim Weiler's Service Award as 30yrs of service. Please note, it should've read **40 years** of Continuous Service. We apologize and thank Jim for his outstanding achievement!!

At the February meeting, Commandant Paul F. Zukunfit awarded the Auxiliary with the Coast Guard Unit Commendation for Exceptional Meritorious Service. Along with this, several Flotilla members were also awarded ribbons for their service. Congratulations to both our Flotilla and members for their commitment to service!

Tall Ships Coming To Philadelphia - Update

We have approached the Philadelphia organization responsible for bringing this event to the Philadelphia/Camden Waterfront and they have expressed interest in our Flotilla partnering with them on this venture. Additional updates will be provided to you soon, and we hope we can count on our members to volunteer their time to make Flotilla 04-76 standout...

Coast Guard Crews Work to Break Ice

TANGIER ISLAND, VA-The crews of the Coast Guard Cutters Capstan, Cleat and Chock are working hard this winter to break ice and maintain navigable waterways from the Delaware River, through the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, down to Tangier Island, Virginia.

The crew of the Baltimore-based Chock traveled to Tangier Island earlier to break ice and aid residents by delivering groceries and medical supplies. While assisting Coast Guard Sector Hampton Roads there was another crew needed to take over the Sector Baltimore ice-breaking mission.

The crew of the Cleat left Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay to assist Baltimore during the Chocks' deployment to Tangier Island.

"As the Coast Guard, we're pretty limited in our ice-breaking assets," said Senior Chief Petty Officer A. J. Pulkkinen, the officer-in-charge of Cleat. "So when the [Chock] went down due to mechanical issues, we came down from Delaware Bay to help them out in the Baltimore area."

Each of the cutters are 65-foot, ice-breaking tugs. They are designed to break ice up to 18 inches thick.

It's been a harsh winter, and we thank them for making it easy for ships to move their cargo to its destined locations.. *Semper Paratus!*

Courtesy: WBOC 16 Delmarva's News Leader



A VOLUNTEER

A volunteer is a person who believes that people can make a difference - and is willing to prove it.

Oftentimes, you are asked to support many missions and activities within the Auxiliary. The call goes out, and many answer without hesitation. In order to make 04-76 strong, we ask that all of our members take time out to strengthen our Flotilla. We understand time is precious, however, whatever time you can donate, makes us better. Fellowship offers us an opportunity to commensurate with each other and learn those special areas of interests, hobbies, talents and backgrounds otherwise unknown. For the good of the Flotilla – Volunteer.

We become better-when we become better...

Charles J Miller, II
Editor
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